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#31/BM
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Atty. Ref.: **30-336**

Group: **1731**

Examiner: **Alvo**

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PETITION FOR CONSIDERATION OF PRIOR ART UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(d)

Since this case is on appeal, applicants petition for consideration of prior art that has recently come to the attention of the undersigned. Listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are references cited in the counterpart Canadian application, and a copy of each of the references is enclosed. The references are in the English language.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office (the Canadian Patent Office) in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement (namely in a communication of November 19, 2000).

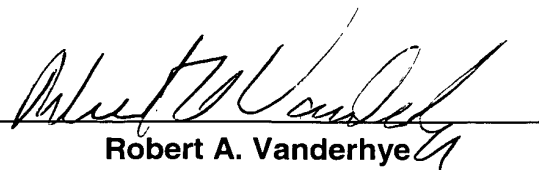
Please initial, date and return the enclosed form PTO-1449.

VUORINEN et al
Serial No. 08/925,321

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____


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